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February 24, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

MIKUCE ELECTED SIGMA PHI EPSILON OFFICER AT EIU

CHARLESTON – Kevin Mikuce, son of Cliff and Colleen Mikuce of Peotone, was recently elected vice president of member development of the Illinois Nu chapter of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity at Eastern Illinois University. He will serve in the office until November 2005.

Mikuce, a 2003 graduate of Peotone High School, is a sophomore elementary education major at Eastern.

As vice president of member development, Mikuce will oversee the four-year program of student development called the Balanced Man Program. This program consists of a leadership continuum of four major stages that is consistent with student psychosocial development in the college -- the Sigma, Phi, Epsilon, and Brother Mentor Challenges, each of which require increasing hours of hands-on service learning activities. For the member who excels, a fifth stage -- the Sigma Phi Epsilon Fellow -- requires the man to carry out at least 600 hours of service learning, and involve his entire chapter in the planned activities.

The Illinois Nu chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon is the top chapter in the Ohio Valley Conference, and is a Five-Star Chapter, earning the EIU President's Award for Fraternal Excellence in Spring 2004. The group has achieved top standing in academic performance for four semesters at EIU, and is one of Sigma Phi Epsilon's 30 largest chapters (out of 276) with 93 men.

Currently the chapter members are working to become accredited as a Sig Ep Residential Learning Center. Features of such a center include having a faculty mentor who holds office hours in the chapter facility and who assists chapter members with academic programming that emphasizes the liberal arts.

Sigma Phi Epsilon is the nation's largest college fraternity, with more men joining Sigma Phi Epsilon over the past 20 years than any other college fraternity. There are currently more than 14,000 undergraduate members, with chapters in all 50 states.